

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-09 EUR-12 NEA-10

AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 HEW-06 INR-07 NSAE-00

PA-02 PRS-01 DHA-02 SCA-01 USIA-15 EB-08 OIC-02

OMB-01 TRSE-00 PM-05 H-02 L-03 NSC-05 SP-02

SS-15 /152 W

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R 271501Z JUL 77

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9723

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS GENEVA 6333

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECOSOC

SUBJECT: 63RD ECOSOC: ASSISTANCE IN CASE OF NATURAL AND  
OTHER DISASTERS (ITEM 24)

REF: GENEVA 5913

1. SUMMARY. PPCC ADOPTED BY CONSENSUS JULY 21 NORWEGIAN RESOLUTION ON MEASURES TO EXPEDITE INTERNATIONAL RELIEF AND DRAFT DECISION PROPOSED BY FRANCE CALLING ON UNDRO TO CONCLUDE WRITTEN UNDERSTANDINGS WITH RELEVANT UN AGENCIES. (TEXTS BEING TRANSMITTED SEPTEL.) THIS FOLLOWED THREE DAYS OF GENERAL DISCUSSION IN WHICH THIRTY DELEGATIONS AND ELEVEN SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND NGOS EXPRESSED STRONG INTEREST IN THE QUESTION OF DISASTER RELIEF. ISSUES RAISED DURING GENERAL DISCUSSION INCLUDED UNDRO PRIORITIES, FUNDING, AND ANNEX II OF THE ANNUAL REPORT.  
END SUMMARY.

2. IN INTRODUCTORY REMARKS, COORDINATOR BERKOK REITERATED THAT THE PRESENT BREAKDOWN OF UNDRO RESOURCE ALLOCATION OF 60 PERCENT (COORDINATION) - 30 PERCENT (PREPAREDNESS) - 10 PERCENT (PREVENTION) IS PROPER; CONFIRMED THAT UNDRO DOES NOT SEEK TO BECOME A DONOR SOURCE FOR DISASTER RELIEF; AND SAID THAT IN-  
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HOUSE REORGANIZATION STUDY WILL BE COMPLETED SHORTLY.

3. IN GENERAL DISCUSSION THAT FOLLOWED NUMBER OF DELEGATIONS REPRESENTING DONOR STATES, E.G., FRG, FRANCE, UK, NEW ZEALAND, STRESSED THAT UNDRO'S CHIEF PRIORITY SHOULD BE IN THE RELIEF AND PREPAREDNESS AREA. SEVERAL STATES THAT HAVE RECENTLY SUFFERED NATURAL DISASTERS, E.G., TURKEY AND ROMANIA, CHOSE TO EMPHASIZE

UNDRO ACTIVITIES IN THE FIELD OF PREVENTION WHICH THEY TERMED AS AN AREA OF HIGH PRACTICAL VALUE FOR THE FUTURE.

4. MOST DONOR STATES INCLUDING UK AND FRG SUPPORTED SYG PROPOSAL IN PARA 14 OF THE REPORT (A/32/64) WHICH CALLS FOR A TRANSFER TO THE REGULAR BUDGET OF 34 PERCENT OF CORE PROGRAM EXPENSES. USDEL ALSO EXPRESSED SUPPORT AS WELL AS ASSERTING POINTS IN PARA 3 REFTEL. NETHERLANDS AND FINNISH OBSERVER SPEAKING FOR NORDICS WENT AS FAR AS TO SAY ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS SHOULD BE FULLY COVERED UNDER THE REGULAR BUDGET. AMONG LDCS ETHIOPIA, JAMAICA, PAKISTAN AND ALGERIA SUPPORTED PARA 14 WHILE THE PHILIPPINES STATED THAT EVEN A HIGHER PORTION OF CORE COSTS WOULD BE ABSORBED BY THE REGULAR BUDGET. CONTRARY TO THIS VIEW, EAST BLOC STATES, INCLUDING THE USSR, BULGARIA, AND MONGOLIA REAFFIRMED THEIR SUPPORT OF VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS AND OPPOSED THE TRANSFER OF ANY FINANCING TO THE REGULAR BUDGET. FRANCE SAID IT GENERALLY OPPOSED TRANSFER OF TRUST FUNDS INTO THE REGULAR BUDGET AND ARGENTINA VOICED SIMILAR FEELINGS. USDEL RAISED QUESTION OF WHETHER ECOSOC SHOULD PRONOUNCE ITSELF ON SYG RECOMMENDATION, BUT IT WAS APPARENT THAT MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE PREFERRED TO LET ACABQ AND 5TH COMMITTEE DEAL WITH FINANCIAL ASPECTS RATHER THAN ECOSOC.

5. ARGENTINA, TURKEY, IRAN, NETHERLANDS, UK, PHILIPPINES, NIGERIA, ETHIOPIA, AND SEVERAL OTHER DELEGATIONS TERMED ANNEX II OF THE REPORT IMPORTANT AND HOPED GOVERNMENTS WOULD SERIOUSLY STUDY IT. A NUMBER OF OTHER DELEGATIONS, PRIMARILY EAST BLOC, E.G., USSR, BULGARIA, MONGOLIA, SAID TIME WAS NEEDED TO CONSIDER THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND DID NOT WISH FOR ECOSOC TO TAKE A DEFINITIVE  
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DECISION AT THIS TIME.

6. NEVERTHELESS, A COMPREHENSIVE RESOLUTION (E/AC.24/L.547) PUSHED BY NORWAY AND COSPONSORED BY THE US WAS ADOPTED BY CONSENSUS. CHINA MADE AN EXPLANATORY STATEMENT AFTER ITS ADOPTION STATING THAT BECAUSE SOME PARTS OF THE RESOLUTION EXTEND INTO THE AREA OF NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY CHINA WOULD NOT HAVE PARTICIPATED IF THERE HAD BEEN A VOTE.

7. IN HIS INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT BERKOL SAID JURISDICTIONAL DIFFICULTIES BETWEEN UNDRO AND UNEP AS WELL AS WMO HAD SURFACED. TO ADDRESS THIS PROBLEM FRENCH DELEGATION INTRODUCED BRIEF DRAFT DECISION WHICH WAS ALSO ADOPTED BY CONSENSUS.

8. VENEZUELAN PROPOSAL WHICH WOULD HAVE CALLED ON SYG IN HIS CAPACITY AS CHAIRMAN OF ACC TO UNDERTAKE A STUDY OF THE ROLE OF VARIOUS UN BODIES IN THE FIELD OF DISASTER WAS WITHDRAWN AFTER FRANCE, UK, US, AND NIGERIA STATED THAT SUCH A STUDY WAS NOT NEEDED AT PRESENT AND THAT THE BEST WAY TO DEAL WITH COORDINATION WAS FOR UNDRO TO WORK OUT AGREEMENTS WITH THE OTHER AGENCIES.  
VANDEN HEUVEL

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## Message Attributes

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